

## House Resolution No.

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives recognize the significance of the institution of marriage as a vital foundation of American society and wholeheartedly believe that a successful union can be achieved only through a loving relationship of mutual honor, respect, and trust; and

**Whereas**, a period of five wondrous decades has passed since Joseph John "Joe" Rouse lovingly took the hand of his beautiful bride, Martha Sue Powell, during a solemn ceremony on June 28, 1954, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri; and

**Whereas**, in the years since that heavenly day, Joe and Martha Rouse have had the pleasure of raising two children, Cynthia Ponder and Michael Rouse, and the privilege of spoiling two grandchildren, Katie and Brennan Ponder; and

**Whereas**, Joe Rouse has compiled an impressive record of achievement that includes serving several years as a Missouri State Highway Patrolman while living in Poplar Bluff, serving twenty-seven years as a claims adjustor from Farm Bureau Insurance, and being a member of the Knights of Columbus, Alcoholics Anonymous, and the Catholic church; and

**Whereas**, a devoted wife, loving mother, and exemplary homemaker, Martha Rouse further distinguished herself by retiring following twenty-six years of service as a case worker with the Missouri Department of Social Services and taking part in many clubs and organizations, a few of which include the Red Hat Society, the Missouri Snow Birds Club, of which she is President, and Friends of the Library, where she has served as hospitality chairman; and

**Whereas**, during their half century together, Joe and Martha Rouse have cherished each other every day in sickness and in health with the love so deep in their hearts; and

**Whereas**, Mr. and Mrs. Rouse of Gulf Shores, Alabama, will commemorate the resplendent occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 27, 2004:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously in extending our most hearty congratulations to Joe and Martha Rouse and in wishing them only the best as they continue their journey walking hand-in-hand along life's path; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Mr. and Mrs. Joseph John Rouse.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Bill Deeken  
District No. 114

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. \_\_\_\_, adopted \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

---

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker